

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
Logistics Operation School
Marine Corps Combat Service Support School
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LS102

STUDENT OUTLINE

LANDING SUPPORT ORGANIZATION

OUTLINE

1. MISSION OF THE TRANSPORTATION SUPPORT BATTALION:

The Transportation Support Battalion (TSBn) provides motor transport and landing support to the MEF and smaller MAGTFs. TSBn can provide the personnel and equipment from which an LFSP or CSSE is task organized. The TSBn has the assets required to support all types of Navy and Marine Corps operations. Typically, it provides general support during amphibious, Maritime Pre-positioning Force (MPF), and terminal operations.

Mission. Provide tactical throughput support and associated command and control for the MEF to facilitate the distribution of personnel, equipment, and supplies by air, ground, and sea.

2. STRUCTURE OF TRANSPORTATION SUPPORT BATTALION

a. Letter Companies.

(1) There are three letter companies; A, B and C. Each subordinate company provides the nucleus of a LS group for the support of a colored beach consisting of two adjacent numbered beaches over which MEB is normally landed. In lieu of the beach support role, the company may provide the nucleus of a helicopter support organization to support two landing zones, through which a MEB normally lands, sufficiently close together to allow for their coordination. Each company has enough internal Motor transport

support to sustain itself.

(2) Headquarters Platoon. The headquarters contains the personnel to supervise the company.

(3) Landing Support Platoon. Conducts all landing support functions.

(4) Material Handling Equipment Platoon. The Material Handling Equipment platoon contains all equipment necessary for any operation the battalion may be tasked with. Forklifts, cranes, and bulldozers are the major end items.

(5) Truck Platoons (1&2). The truck platoon provides Motor Transport assets to each platoon in the form of LVS's, 5-ton trucks, HWMMV's, etc.

(6) Motor Transport Platoon. The motor transport platoon when task organized, provides motor transport assets to each platoon in the form of LVS's, 5-ton trucks, HWMMV's, etc.

b. Beach and Terminal Operations Company. Provides for the management and operation of ports, railheads, beaches, airfields and any other cargo terminal.

(1) Company Headquarters supports the company with administrative, messing, and Motor Transport needs.

(2) Air Delivery Platoon can drop supplies by parachute from helicopter or fixed-wing aircraft.

(3) Longshoremen Platoon. Two of these platoons operate port operations and relieve the shore party platoon. They also set up and operate Arrival Airfield Control Group /Departure Airfield Control Group (AACG/DACG) during air movements.

(4) Shipping and Receiving platoon. Expedite shipments using various types of air and surface transportation.

c. Support Company. Provides the internal communications,

medical, messing, and supply support for the battalion.
Support
company also has Motor Transport and Material Handling
Equipment
support.

(1) Communication Platoon. A communication section
is augmented to each shore party platoon and contains the
Marines
and equipment necessary to begin establishing radio and wire
communications in the Beach Support Area.

(2) Supply Platoon. This section provides internal
supply
support to the Battalion.

(3) Medical Platoon. This platoon when augmented
supplies the company with internal medical support.

d. Maintenance Company. Provides all mechanical support
for
keeping assets operational.

(1) Material Handling Equipment mechanics ensure all MHE
assets are operational.

(2) Motor Vehicle mechanics ensure all motorized assets
are operational.

e. Shore Party Team. Organizes and operates the facilities
for
unloading supplies and equipment at water's edge, and movement
of
material to the dump area or out of the Beach Support Area.

f. Helicopter Support Team. Lands and establishes landing
zones which support a battalion size unit.

3. MARINE LANDING SUPPORT TASKS IN AN AMPHIBIOUS OPERATION

- a. Mark limits of the beach unloading points.
- b. Designate and mark appropriate sites where landing ships
and craft will beach and where causeways will be placed.
- c. Designate and mark appropriate landing sites for

helicopters.

d. Locate and establish multiclass beach dumps, including amphibious assault fuel facilities.

e. Assist troops in landing and moving across beaches.

f. Mark and remove obstacles in the beach support area (BSA) which are hazardous to LS operations.

g. Construct and maintain beach lateral and exit roads.

h. Establish and operate information centers and maintain current situation maps to assist units which have landed within the Beach Support Area (BSA).

i. Control traffic in the Beach Support Area (BSA).

j. Maintain communications with troop commanders of both the waterborne and helicopterborne assault units and tactical-logistical groups for control purposes.

k. Establish lateral communication between beaches and helicopter landing zones.

l. Mark contaminated portions of the BSA and decontaminate those areas that are essential for use.

m. Throughput of casualties and enemy prisoners of war.

n. Provide emergency vehicle repairs and de-waterproofing facilities for vehicles landed in the waterborne assault.

o. Maintain a continuous record by category of units, equipment, and amounts of supplies landed.

p. Coordinate the movement of amphibious vehicles carrying supplies; unload supplies to inland dumps or using units as required.

q. Provide personnel to augment ship's platoons and train ships' platoons.

r. Provide local security and coordinate the defense of the BSA.

s. Initiate, as directed, civil affairs and military government procedures in the BSA.

t. Establish and maintain, as a part of the overall landing force warning system, a system to warn of air, ground, and NBC attacks within the BSA.

u. Provide graves registration services as directed.

v. Construct helicopter landing sites within the BSA.

w. Load helicopters with supplies for further delivery inland.

(a) Rearm and refuel aviation assets as required.

(b) Install and operate bulk fuel facilities.

x. Select, upon the recommendations of the naval elements, locations of causeways and slots, or ramps for landing ships and craft, and establish unloading point markers at those points for wheeled vehicles, tracked vehicles, and supplies.

4. MARINE LANDING SUPPORT MISSION IN THE DEPARTURE AIRFIELD CONTROL GROUP: The mission of the departure airfield control group is to coordinate and control the onloading of units for deployment. The DACG should be organized as a provisional

unit.

(a) Accepting chalks from deploying unit.

(b) Conducting inspections.

(c) Establishing communications with deploying unit.

(d) Establishing functional areas and backup communications

with ALCE.

(e) Assisting in joint inspection with the ALCE or ACE.

(f) Establishing a joint inspection area and a final briefing area/final manifest correction area.

(g) Establishing statistical data.

5. MARINE LANDING SUPPORT MISSION IN AN ARRIVAL AIRFIELD

CONTROL GROUP: The mission of the arrival airfield control group is essentially the same as that of the DACG, except that the AACG is primarily concerned with off-loading operations.

(a) Assembling chalks.

(b) Inspecting for completeness.

(c) Providing minor services (e.g., gas, oil, minor maintenance).

(d) Developing statistical data.

(e) Establishing radio and/or landlines to the unit area and functional area.

(f) Establishing backup communications in the unloading area with the ALCE.

(g) Establishing a temporary storage area.

6. MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE (MAGTF) AND THE TASK ORGANIZATION OF LANDING SUPPORT

a. Is comprised of four elements; command, ground combat, air combat, and combat service support elements.

b. Fleet Marine Force Atlantic/Pacific (FMFLANT/FMFPAC)

(1) Fleet Marine Force is commanded a by LT. General.

(2) Under his command are all Marines in the FMF in the geographical area to include all MAGTF's

c. Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF).

(1) The MEF is commanded by a LT. General.

(2) A **Transportation Support Battalion** supports a MEF.

d. Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB).

(1) The Marine Expeditionary Brigade is commanded by
a
Brigadier General.

(2) A Letter Company from TSB supports a MEB.

e. The Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU)

(1) Marine Expeditionary Unit is commanded by a
Colonel.

(2) A Landing Support Platoon supports a MEU.

7. **LANDING FORCE SUPPORT PARTY.** The mission of the LFSP is
to
provide initial combat service support during the ship-to-
shore
movement. The LFSP may include units or detachments from the
GCE, the ACE, the CSSE, and the navy as required.

8. **FORCE SERVICE SUPPORT GROUP STRUCTURE**

a. H & S Battalion.

(1) Headquarters & Service Company provides the command
and control.

(2) Communication Company will support the Shore Party
with communications that are beyond its capability.

(3) Military Police Company helps control personnel and
vehicles in the BSA/LZSA and is in charge of the prisoners of
war and civilian enclosures.

b. Supply Battalion.

(1) Ammunitions Company furnishes Marines to run the
ammunition dumps.

(2) Medical Logistics Company provides medical supplies to the MEF.

(3) Supply Company.

a. Provides internal supply support.

c. Engineer Support Battalion.

(1) Engineer Support Company.

(2) Bridge Company.

(3) Bulk Fuel Company.

(4) Three letter companies; A, B, and C. Provides support in beach improvements, dump expansion, maintenance, and expansion of beach exits.

(5) Headquarters and Service Company.

d. Medical Battalion.

(1) Provide health care through the 2d echelon of medical care, including initial resuscitative care, resuscitative surgery, and temporary hospitalization of casualties, to the MEF. support each colored beach.

(2) Provide medical regulating services for the MEF.

(3) Provide preventive medicine support to the MEF.

(4) Assist in the collection, analysis, and dissemination of medical intelligence.

(5) Provide the medical elements for the establishment of casualty decontamination and treatment stations.

(6) Provide medical support for management of mass casualties and combat stress casualties.

e. Transportation Support Battalion.

(1) There are three letter companies; A, B, and C. They provide trucks, tractors, and trailers for movement of troops, equipment, and supplies.

(2) Headquarters and Service Company.

(3) Beach and Terminal Operations Company.

(4) Maintenance Company.

(5) Support Company.

f. Dental Battalion. Provides dental care support and support in those areas of medical emergency treatment and evacuation.

(1) Three Dental Companies.

(2) Headquarters and Service Companies.

g. Maintenance Battalion. Provides the early maintenance effort in support of landing support operation. Contact teams provide quick-fix or evacuation type efforts. separate companies are set up to handle each type of maintenance.

(1) Electronics Maintenance Company.

(2) Engineer Maintenance Company.

(3) Motor Transport Maintenance Company.

(4) Ordnance Maintenance Company.

(5) General Support Maintenance Company.

(6) Headquarters and Service Company.

9. Naval Beach Group.

a. Beachmaster Unit provides a valuable service in an amphibious assault. They determine the best locations for beaching the various landing craft to expedite off-loading, the most suitable location for a causeway, and the capability for installing an underwater cable to the primary control ship. Their basic equipment

usually consists of TD-24 dozers, a surf crane, an amphibious vehicle with "A" frame, and assorted radio equipment. Working together with them is essential in ensuring the success of the landing.

b. Assault Craft Unit - Provides the landing craft to assist in the ship-to-shore movement.

REFERENCES:

1. FMFM 4-3 MAGTF Landing Support Operations.
2. FMFM 3-1 Command and Staff Action.
3. MCRP 5-12D Organization of Marine Corps Forces.

LIST OF SUPPORTING PAPERS

1. Advance Sheet/Student Outline
2. Student Handout
3. FRAME #1 - LANDING SUPPORT ORGANIZATION
 - FRAME #2 - LSO Cover points
 - FRAME #3 - Mission
 - FRAME #4 - Transportation Support Battalion
 - FRAME #5 - Companies A, B, C
 - FRAME #6 - Beach and Terminal Operations Company
 - FRAME #7 - Support Company
 - FRAME #8 - Maintenance Company
 - FRAME #9 - Shore Party
 - FRAME #10 - Helicopter Support Team
 - FRAME #11 - Marine Tasks in Amphib Ops (Pg 1)
 - FRAME #12 - Marine Tasks in Amphib Ops (Pg 2)
 - FRAME #13 - Marine Tasks in Amphib Ops (Pg 3)
 - FRAME #14 - Marine Tasks in Amphib Ops (Pg 4)
 - FRAME #15 - Departure Airfield Control Group
 - FRAME #16 - Arrival Airfield Control Group
 - FRAME #17 - Marine Air Ground Task Force
 - FRAME #18 - Marine Air Ground Task Force Elements
 - FRAME #19 - Marine Expeditionary Force
 - FRAME #20 - Marine Expeditionary Brigade

FRAME #21 - Marine Expeditionary Unit

FRAME #22 - Force Service Support Group

FRAME #23 - Naval Beach Group

FRAME #24 - Questions

FRAME #25 - Summary

FRAME #26 - Take a Break